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I went to part of a lecture given at the Embassy tonight by Richard Neustadt. He is a brilliant speaker. While Professor of Government at Columbia University, he wrote a book on "Presidential Power", and is a consultant to President Kennedy. He talked about the limitations on the President's powers imposed by the Constitution, and used as an illustration of how effective it can be, the actions taken by the President at the time the U. S. Steel Corporation raised its prices.

May 9, 1962 - Wednesday

The Department is trying to steal another position from us in the Political Section. I sent off a telegram about this today, stating I consider the maintenance of our present strength essential. We have an exceptional group in the Political Section. On the whole, I think they are overworked. Galbraith, Purnell, and others go to the Foreign Office almost every day. The matters concerning Laos and the Congo are particularly time-consuming. In Laos, between Phoumi and the three Princes, we have arrived almost at a stalemate. Prince Souvanna is remaining in Paris, recovering, no doubt, from his poisoning by fermented deer liver. He now asserts he must stay there for dental care, and to watch over the health of the father of his prospective son-in-law.

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I left at 9:00 this morning, to visit those Third Air Force Bases I had not seen on my previous trip. Bill Clark accompanied me to Northolt, where we met our host, General Ives, and his guests, ~~Field Marshal~~ The Earl and Countess Alexander of Tunis; Mr. William J. Taylor, Parliamentary Under-Secretary for Air; Air Marshal Sir Douglas Jackman, Co-ordinator of Anglo-American Relations, Air Ministry; M. J. Culham, Private Secretary to Mr. Taylor; William Clark; Wing Commander George Cubby, RAF Liaison Officer, 3rd Air Force; Miss Joyce Kirtley, Chief UK Community Relations Officer; Lt. Col. Robert Spence, Director

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